

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 12 - 17. Claims 12 – 17 remain in the application. No claims have been amended. Claims 23 - 36 are new.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12-15

Claims 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frey (U.S. Patent No. 6,281,690). Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejected claims.

Applicants' claim 12 discloses a calibration configuration and a test configuration. Both the calibration and test configurations use an adapter. These configurations are used to derive a fixture loss through a test fixture that includes a radio frequency test probe. The test configuration is formed by "connecting in series at least the first coaxial cable, the radio frequency test probe in the test fixture, the adapter, and the second coaxial cable." In the test configuration ". . . the adapter contacts the radio frequency test probe" to acquire the radio frequency signal loss through this test configuration.

Applicants respectfully submit that Frey teaches away from applicants' invention. Applicants understand Frey to disclose a coaxial radio frequency test probe designed to minimize electrical losses and render such losses uniform and predictable (Frey, col. 3, lines 9-15). Because Frey relies on the predictable nature of the electrical losses through the probe, Frey discloses using a standard for calibration. This is contrary to the applicants' disclosure in claim 12 which uses an adapter that contacts the radio frequency test probe which forms part of a calibration configuration and a test configuration. Use of the adapter negates the need to use a standard for calibration.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 13-15 depend on independent claim 12 and include all the limitations of claim 12. As such, claims 13-15 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 12.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 16-17

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 16-17 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully submit that because the claims depend on claim 12, the claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 12.

New Claims


Applicants added new claims 22-36 to better encompass the invention in the application. Applicants respectfully submit claims 22-36 are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection and objection have been overcome by the remarks. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection and objection be withdrawn and the claims allowed. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 9/26/05 By: 
Michael A. Bernadicou
Reg. No. 35,934

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
(408) 720-8300